	Page	1
1		
2	STATE OF ALABAMA	
3	DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS	
4		
5	ORIGINAL	
6		N. W.
7	* * * * * * * *	.,41
8	DOTHAN CIVIC CENTER	
9	126 N. Andrews Street	
10	Dothan, Alabama	
11	Wednesday, July 13, 2005	
12	* * * * * * * *	
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15		
16		
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19		
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21		
22	Sam Houston v. L3 Communications 432	

	Page 2
1	MR. BLEVINS: Welcome to the
2,	one o'clock docket for the Board of
3	Appeals hearings, Dothan, Alabama.
4	We're starting about an hour and ten
5	minutes late. We'll try to get
6	everyone out of here at a decent time.
7	The board members are appointed by
8	the governor to review unemployment
9	claims at the last level before they go
10	into the court system.
11	Let me introduce some members of
12	the board. To my left is Ms. Charlotte
13	Flowers.
14	MS. FLOWERS: Good afternoon.
15	MR. BLEVINS: Mr. Don Jones to
16	my right.
17	MR. JONES: Good afternoon.
18	MR. BLEVINS: Our court
19	reporter today is Bridgette Mitchell.
20	My name is Joe Blevins.
21	A decision will not be made on your
22	claim today. In about four weeks, you
23	will receive the decision of the board

	Page 3
1	by certified mail, return receipt
2	requested. If you disagree with that
3	decision, you can file an appeal with
4	the circuit court in the county in
5	which the claimant resides. That
6	information will be forwarded to you
7	along with the decision.
8	We'll go by docket today. It's a
9	list that's been prepared in Montgomery
10	for us to use. When we call your name
11	or your employer's name, anyone that's
12	present for that case please come
13	forward, remain standing, the court
14	reporter will administer the oath, and
15	then you can be seated. Board members
16	will ask questions they feel pertinent
17	to the case. And we'll give anyone a
18	chance to say what they want to say as
19	long as it's relevant to the case at
20	hand.
21	If you would, either turn off or
22	put all cell phones on silent mode, or
23	beepers. And no recording is allowed

	Page 4
1	by rule except for the court reporter
2 .	of these hearings.
3	Case No. 9, Samuel P. Houston, Army
4	Fleet Support, LLC.
5	ALL PARTIES, having first been duly
6	sworn or affirmed to speak the truth,
7	the whole truth, and nothing but the
. 8	truth, testified as follows:
9	MR. BLEVINS: Administrative
10	hearing officer scheduled a hearing for
11	May 5, 2005. The employer was not
12	present for that hearing. The hearing
13	officer affirmed the prior
14	determination allowing benefits and the
15	employer has appealed.
16	The procedure we'll follow here,
17	since we have counsel, will be board
18	members will ask direct questions, then
19	when we're finished, if counsel has any
20	relevant material he feels we've
21	missed, we'll give you a chance to put
22	that on the record.
23	MR. THARPE: Thank you.

	Page 5
1	MR. BLEVINS: Mr. Houston, did
. 2	you quit your job with Army Fleet?
. 3	MR. HOUSTON: No, sir.
4	MR. BLEVINS: Okay. Did
5	someone tell you you were discharged?
6	MR. HOUSTON: I was given
7	paperwork saying, originally, I was
8	involuntarily terminated. Then I was
9	given a second piece of paper saying
10	that I was administratively terminated.
11	MR. BLEVINS: Who will speak
12	first for the employer?
13	MR. WHITNEY: I will.
14	MR. BLEVINS: He was terminated
15	from his job?
16	MR. WHITNEY: He was not, sir.
17	MR. BLEVINS: Was he given any
18	paperwork, as he has testified, that he
19	was involuntarily terminated?
20	MR. WHITNEY: He was briefed on
21	procedures after being on short-term
22	disability. Mr. Houston is a member of
23	the Army Fleet Support, which is a

	Page 6
1	unionized workforce which falls under
2	a collective bargaining agreement.
3	Mr. Houston has a copy of that
4	collective bargaining agreement, and
5	there are citations of this procedure
6	in there.
7.	The articles that govern this
8	procedure begin with Article 1714, when
9	a person returns from short-term
10	disability and they're applying for
11	their position with restrictions.
12	Under 1714, it's referenced that if he
13	needs to return to work with
14	accommodations, he follows procedures
15	under 4.7. And I've tabbed all these
16	actions for you.
17	Under 4.7 and it's actually
18	4.7(B)(4) Mr. Houston, just as all
19	the union employees, or represented
20	employees, can apply for an alternate
21	position if we cannot accommodate their
22	restrictions under current
23	classification. Mr. Houston is an

	Page 7
1	aircraft mechanic. His restrictions
2	were extensive. And at the time of his
3	return, when he submitted his
4.	return-to-work slip, it was suggested
5	that he seek an alternate position.
6	Mr. Houston has not availed himself of
7	the process which is outlined in the
8	CBA. Now, as I stated, it's under
9	4.7(B)(4) that states a person who
10	cannot work in their current
11	classification can apply for an
12	alternate position; that falls under
· 13	Article 35.1.
14	Article 35.1 states that all you
15	have to do is submit paperwork
16	requesting classification. And
17	depending on what's in your file, if
18	you're qualified for the position,
19	seniority permitting, you will be in
20	those positions. This is not
21	happening. Mr. Houston was briefed on
22	this. And in the statement written by
23	him, he does state that he was briefed

	Page 8
,1	by the HR manager.
2	MR. BLEVINS: Let me ask you a
3	couple basic questions. When did he
4	actually last work?
5	MR. WHITNEY: Mr. Houston's
6	last day of work was September 2, '04.
7	MR. JONES: Pardon me?
8	MR. WHITNEY: September 2, '04.
9	MS. FLOWERS: Last day worked?
10	MR. WHITNEY: Last day worked.
11	MR. BLEVINS: And he had been
12	there several years?
13	MR. WHITNEY: He was first
14	hired on the contract on 2/25/02. He
15	gained employment with Army Fleet
16	Support under the new collective
17	bargaining agreement, new contract,
18	12/1/03.
19	MR. BLEVINS: So it's your
20	testimony he was not able to perform
21	his primary job and he failed to
22	attempt to obtain an alternate
23	position? Sam Houston v. L3 Communications 439

	Page 9
1	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
2	MR. BLEVINS: Is that
. 3	basically that's what I gather from
4	your testimony.
5	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
6.	MR. BLEVINS: Is that correct?
7	Is that what happened?
8	MR. HOUSTON: No.
9	MR. BLEVINS: You did not
10	attempt to secure a different position?
11	MR. HOUSTON: I was there on
12	the morning and I asked very politely
13	to the HR representative if I could go
14	into my old career field for one day so
15	I may be allowed to reclassify, but
16	they would not allow me to go into my
17	old career field due to my physical
18	limitations. They refused to
19	accommodate those limitations.
20	MR. BLEVINS: Okay. Now, if I
21	understand the statements in the file,
22	the doctor has stated, apparently, that
23	your limitations are permanent; right?

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	Page 10
1	MR. HOUSTON: Yes, sir, they
2	are.
3	MR. BLEVINS: So is it your
4	testimony there was no alternative
5	position for you to seek?
6	MR. HOUSTON: I wanted to be an
7	aircraft scheduler. I was told prior
8	to this incident that I needed to type
9	thirty words a minute. So being that I
10	am from Florida, I went to Jobs Plus,
11	and they have a computer program there
12	that allowed me to brush up on my
13	typing. I brushed up on my typing to a
14	speed of thirty words a minute. And I
15	thought I had fulfilled the obligation
16	of reclassifying into a clerical job
17	that required me to meet the thirty-
18	word-per-minute requirement, and then I
19	was told that they cannot accommodate
20	me.
21	MR. BLEVINS: Is that correct,
22	he attempted to go into this clerical
23	field? Sam Houston v. L3 Communications 441

	Page 11
1	MR. WHITNEY: No, sir.
2	MR. HOUSTON: Excuse me. I
3	wanted to be an aircraft scheduler.
4	MR. BLEVINS: And you formally
5	applied for that in some manner?
. 6	MR. HOUSTON: I asked them on
7	the day I returned, on the 14th of
8	March, with my doctor's return-to-work
9	slip, if I could reclassify, and they
10	said no.
11	MR. BLEVINS: Is that correct?
12	MR. WHITNEY: This is a
13	statement written by Mr. Houston.
14	About halfway through the final
15	paragraph, Mr. Houston states that when
16	he returned, the HR manager suggested
17	that he seek an alternate position
18	because it was directed by his doctor
19	he could not be in a mechanic position
20	but should look for a clerical or
21	sedentary position. The HR manager
22	suggested that he look at a position
23	like aircraft scheduler and that he

	Page 12
1	should go work on his typing.
. 2	Now, at this time, there is no
3	obligation that this person return
. 4	that Mr. Houston return as an aircraft
5	mechanic not for one day, not for
6	one hour, not at all. At that time, he
7	had full CBA rights to fill out
8	documentation. He could have filled
9	out a request to be every
10	classification that he felt he was
11	qualified for. It has not been done.
12	We have no request on file for him to
13	reclassify into a position that we can
14	consider.
15	MR. BLEVINS: Let me go to
16	Ms. Flowers.
17	MS. FLOWERS: You're a federal
18	employee?
19	MR. WHITNEY: No, ma'am.
20	MS. FLOWERS: You're a contract
21	employee. Was he hurt on the job?
22	MR. WHITNEY: No, ma'am.
23	MS. FLOWERS: Not an on-the-job

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	Page 13
1	injury?
2	MR. WHITNEY: No, ma'am.
3	MS. FLOWERS: But he had been
4	out under doctor's care
5	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, ma'am.
6	MS. FLOWERS: for a period
7	of time. He came back with
8	restrictions that you would have to
9	accommodate?
10	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, ma'am.
11	MS. FLOWERS: And those
12	requirements, the way I see it here,
13	was just saying there's a requirement
14	that you'll undergo situations when you
15	come back. There are certain steps you
16	have to take in order for being
17	considered in place to meet his
18	accommodations?
19	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, ma'am.
20	MS. FLOWERS: And you're
21	telling me that he did not follow those
22	procedures for placement
23	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, ma'am.

	Page 14
1	MS. FLOWERS: under these
2 .	circumstances?
3	MR. WHITNEY: Had there been a
4	termination, he had full grievance
5	rights under Article 7. There was no
6	termination. Mr. Houston is an
7	employee of Army Fleet Support for up
8	to five years or length of seniority,
9	which brings him up to March 2007. He
10	can come in at any time and apply for a
11	position that he's qualified for. This
12	has yet to be done.
13	MS. FLOWERS: Did you do the
14	request per the contract when you came
1 5	back to work?
16	MR. HOUSTON: I have one
17	statement to make.
18	MS. FLOWERS: Well, first, when
19	you returned back to work, did you
20	follow the procedures in the negotiated
21	agreement between the bargaining
22	employees and AFS?
23	MR. HOUSTON: I asked to be

	Page 15
1	reclassified.
2	MS. FLOWERS: But did you
3	follow the steps that
4	MR. HOUSTON: Procedures that
5	are asked? I mean
6	MS. FLOWERS: Did you file a
7	union grievance?
8	MR. HOUSTON: No, I did not.
9	MS. FLOWERS: So you didn't get
10	any assistance in the procedure on
11	requesting okay.
12	MR. HOUSTON: I have one thing
13	to say, though.
14	MS. FLOWERS: Yes.
15	MR. HOUSTON: The manager of
16	the HR, human resource office, was
17	Mr. Ed Brown. He was not there the day
18	that I got terminated.
19	MS. FLOWERS: Didn't you state
20	he was not terminated?
21	MR. WHITNEY: He was not
22.	terminated.
23	MS. FLOWERS: Okay. If he

	Page 16
1	wasn't terminated, why is he not
2	working?
3	MR. WHITNEY: He has failed to
4	apply for a position which we can
. 5	accomodate him for.
6	MS. FLOWERS: So he didn't
7	follow the procedures as outlined,
8	therefore, you haven't he can't work
9	the current position he held.
10	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, ma'am.
11	MS. FLOWERS: And, therefore,
12	he's not terminated, he's just is he
13	just hanging out there until he follows
14	the procedure or what?
15	MR. WHITNEY: I would not know
16	what position to put him in and I can't
17	guess what position he would want. He
18	must submit, by Article 35.1
19	MS. FLOWERS: If he follows the
20	procedures in here and there is a
21	position vacant that meets his
22	restrictions, is he
23	MR. WHITNEY: He is eligible up

•	Page 17
1	to March of 2007.
2	MS. FLOWERS: All right. I
3 .	don't have anything else.
4	MR. BLEVINS: Mr. Jones?
5	MR. JONES: What's your
6	position with the company?
7 .	MR. WHITNEY: I'm the HR
8	compliance officer, sir.
9	MR. JONES: HR compliance
10	officer?
11	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
12	MR. JONES: Now, do I
13	understand that Army Fleet is this
14	the contractor for Rucker between
15	Rotary Wing Aircraft?
16	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
17	MR. JONES: Is he is the
18	claimant drawing long-term disability?
19	MR. WHITNEY: No, sir.
20	MR. JONES: Short-term
21	disability?
22	MR. WHITNEY: He had run out
23	his short-term disability after six

	Page 18
1	months.
2	MR. JONES: So the short-term
3	disability has been used up?
4	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
5	MR. JONES: After the
6	short-term disability, do you go on
7	long-term disability? Do you have a
8	long-term disability provision?
9	MR. WHITNEY: Not for
10	bargaining union employees?
11	MR. JONES: Not for bargaining
12	union employees.
13	MR. WHITNEY: However
14	MR. JONES: That that's all
15	right. Wait just a minute. Okay. So
16	Mr. Houston, as Ms. Flowers has pointed
17	out, he is a representative of the unit
18	that is he's an employee of a unit
19	that is covered by labor management
20	agreement?
21	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
22	MR. JONES: Is that right?
23	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.

.1	Page 19 MR. JONES: Okay. Under that
2 .	labor management agreement, he has
3	certain rights?
4	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
5	MR. JONES: I heard him I
6	heard the claimant testify what he
7	wanted to be, and I believe it was
8	aircraft scheduler?
9 .	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
10	MR. JONES: What the
11	claimant see how I want to say this.
12	What the claimant wants to be and what
13	is available may not necessarily be the
14	same things?
15	MR. WHITNEY: Very true, sir.
16	MR. JONES: Is that right?
17	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
18	MR. JONES: So if
19	Mr. Houston?
20	MR. HOUSTON: Yes, sir.
21	MR. JONES: Was the only thing
22	you wanted to be an aircraft scheduler?
23	MR. HOUSTON: Yes, sir, because

	Page 20
1	I was
2	MR. JONES: Was the only thing
3	you wanted to be an aircraft scheduler?
4	MR. HOUSTON: Yes. And I was
5	told
6	MR. JONES: You answered my
7	question.
8	MR. HOUSTON: Yes.
9	MR. JONES: So when an
·10	employee, claimant, under the
11	circumstances says, I want to be this,
12	it's not available, then you don't have
13	anything else, what do you do with him?
14	Is he on leave of absence?
15	MR. WHITNEY: He's an inactive
16	employee right now.
17	MR. JONES: Inactive employee.
18	And under the terms of the agreement,
19	I'm sure there's a provision in there,
. 20	and you may already I think you said
21	'07. He stays as an inactive employee,
22	and it's up to the claimant to initiate
23	the action and not for the company to

	Page 21
1	go out and say, What do you want to do?
2	He's got to comply with the terms of
3	the bargaining agreement, does he not?
4	MR. WHITNEY: That is correct,
5	sir.
6	MR. JONES: That's all I have.
7	MS. FLOWERS: I have a couple
8	questions for clarification. You said,
9	now, he came back or the last day he
10	worked was September 2, '04?
11	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, ma'am.
12	MS. FLOWERS: What date did
13	he that's the last day he worked,
14	but did he come back after that date?
15	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, ma'am.
16	MS. FLOWERS: What was that
17	date?
18	MR. WHITNEY: This is the day
19	he attempted to return to work.
20	MS. FLOWERS: I just need the
21	date. What date was that?
22	MR. WHITNEY: March 14, '05.
23	MS. FLOWERS: March 14, '05.

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	Page 22
1	Okay. Have y'all got a has your
2	contract been extended?
3	MR. WHITNEY: It has actually
4	been changed. The chapters and
5	provisions are the same.
6	MS. FLOWERS: Okay. My part is
7	this part right here. It's still the
8	same?
9	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, ma'am.
10	MS. FLOWERS: What I'm
11	referring to is the recognition of
12	employee union and the management of
13	employees. So nothing changed in this
14	particular article?
15	MR. WHITNEY: Article 1, no,
16	ma'am.
17	MS. FLOWERS: Nothing changed.
18	Even though today you've got a new
19	contract with a different date, that
20	particular article did not change?
21	MR. WHITNEY: No, ma'am.
22	MS. FLOWERS: And I'm talking
23	about the rights per the bargaining

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	Page 23
1	agreement.
2.	MR. BLEVINS: Mr. Houston, I
3	just have one question before I go to
4	your attorney. What experience do you
5	have other than aircraft mechanic?
6	Have you worked in another line of
7	work?
8 '	MR. HOUSTON: Sir, I'm a
9	veteran of the Air Force. I spent
10	twenty-four years in the Air Force.
11	I've done all facets of aircraft
12	maintenance including being a worker,
13	supervisor, and in management.
14	MR. BLEVINS: What I'm
15	interested in, what type work do you
16	have prior experience in that could be
17	performed within the restrictions that
18	the doctor currently has on you? Do
19	you have any type of clerical
20	experience or anything of that nature?
21	MR. HOUSTON: Yes. I was a
22	flight chief four times in my military
23	career. That had a lot to do with

	Page 24
1	clerical performance, writing reports
2	and such.
3	MR. BLEVINS: Okay. Counselor?
4	MR. THARPE: First of all, the
5	contract that Mr. Whitney Bob and I
6	go back a long ways. I used to be a
7	union business representative. The
8	blue contract expired in May 2005.
9	MR. BLEVINS: Okay.
.10	MR. THARPE: They have a new
11	contract. As a continuing employee,
12	Mr. Houston now falls under the new
13	contract.
14	MR. BLEVINS: Okay. Everybody
15	agree?
16	MR. WHITNEY: That is correct.
17	MR. THARPE: I have, I believe,
18	six exhibits I would like to enter for
19	consideration on his behalf. It's the
20	new contract, the new job descriptions.
21	Do you have any objection?
22	MR. WHITNEY: No.
23	MR. THARPE: Also, I'd like to

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	Page 25
1	enter his doctor's statement and his
2	return-to-work slip.
3	MR. BLEVINS: Do you have
4	copies of these?
5	MR. THARPE: If you don't, I
6	have some. You may not have this.
7	During negotiations if you look at
8	that, look on page 2 under, I believe
. 9	under physical requirements the
10	company attempted to negotiate it into
11	the job descriptions those
12	restrictions. Okay?
13	MS. FLOWERS: They attempted?
14	I want to be sure. You said
15	"attempted," but they did not
16	MR. THARPE: They did not
17	MS. FLOWERS: But they didn't
18	end up
19	MR. THARPE: They did not
20	MS. FLOWERS: in the
21	contract. Okay.
22	MR. THARPE: get them. This
23	is the union's counterproposal. And if

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	Page 26
1	you'll look in the new job description
2	book, there are no restrictions in that
3	job description book. The company
4	tried to negotiate this and they failed
5 .	to get it, and they can't use those
6	description those restrictions now.
7	If they unilaterally implement those
8	restrictions, it would be unfair labor
. 9	practice. Mr. Houston should be back
10 .	to work because there are no
11	restrictions in the collective
12	bargaining agreement on the job
13	descriptions.
14	MR. BLEVINS: Comment?
15	MR. WHITNEY: One. Under the
16	new job descriptions, which are
17	approved under physical requirements,
18	Must be physically able to perform
19	duties and responsibilities of
20	classifications. Under on
21	Mr. Houston's return to work by his
22	doctor as an aircraft mechanic, a
23	person has to be able to climb on top

	Page 27
1	of aircraft, has to be able to work
2	mechanical parts his doctor wrote,
3	Patient may return to work as of
4	March 14, 2005, with no lifting more
5 ,	than 25 pounds, no climbing, no
6	standing more than one and a half
7	hours, no prolonged sitting. You have
8	a copy of this.
9	MR. BLEVINS: We have a copy,
10	that's correct.
11	MR. WHITNEY: These
12	restrictions are so extensive that the
13	person cannot perform the duties of an
14	aircraft mechanic. We also have two
15 .	statements from two other physicians
16	which were submitted by Mr. Houston on
17	the same day that said that
18	specifically stated, Should not perform
19	heavy lifting, should not perform
20	mechanical work, should be should
21	consider sedentary work. And I have
22	copies of those, if you'd like.
23	MR. THARPE: The company lost

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	Page 28
1	their right to deny employment by using
2	restrictions when they failed to get it
3	in the new collective bargaining
4	agreement in the job descriptions.
5	They couldn't negotiate it, so they
6	don't have it.
7	MS. FLOWERS: Let me clear
8	this. He's not fired?
9	MR. THARPE: No.
10	MS. FLOWERS: He's not
11	terminated?
12	MR. WHITNEY: Correct. You're
13	correct.
14	MS. FLOWERS: Okay. So what
1 5	we're waiting on is for him to comply.
16	And then if there's a job that meets
17	that, he can have a job?
18	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, ma'am.
19	MS. FLOWERS: And you're saying
20	the job descriptions don't have any
21	MR. THARPE: Not anymore.
22	MS. FLOWERS: Doesn't have that
23	in there, which okay. But it does

```
Page 29
 1
     say he has to be able to perform those
 2
     duties?
 3
             MR.
                 THARPE:
                           Yes.
 4
             MS. FLOWERS:
                            And I think under
 5
         own testimony today -- you said you
 6
    were not able to do aircraft mechanic
 7
    work anymore, but you could do this
 8
                 Is that the only job that
    other job.
9
    you want to apply for?
10
                           Well, ma'am,
             MR. HOUSTON:
                                          it's
11
    one of the jobs that I have experience
12
    at as
13
             MS.
                 FLOWERS:
                            Yeah.
14
             MR.
                HOUSTON:
                            -- the Air Force,
15
    because I worked with our flight
16
    schedule extensively.
17
             MS. FLOWERS:
                            Well, I'm not as
18
    familiar with this contract as I am
19
    with some of the others. I
                                  am familiar
20
    with the other local and their contract
21
    and some others. But does it not say
22
    anywhere in the contract -- let me --
23
    is there any policy or procedure or
```

	Page 30
1	anything in the contract that has some
2	language that specifically tells how
3	you deal more specifically of how
4	you deal with employees that cannot
5 .	perform those duties?
6	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, ma'am. Once
7 '	again, article the articles that I
8	have mentioned before. And this falls
9	into the ADA, which is Article 1714.
10	MS. FLOWERS: Right. I saw
11	that.
12	MR. WHITNEY: He falls into
13	Article 4.7, which is a person who is
14	not physically able to do their job may
15	displace a less senior person in a job
16	that they're qualified for and that
17	they apply for. That's the key. They
18	have to apply for the position under
19	MS. FLOWERS: Okay.
20	MR. HOUSTON: 35.1.
21	MS. FLOWERS: You've answered
22	my question. What I'm saying is, most
23	of them have language that they come

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1	back, they have these restrictions,
2.	they give it to you and let you look at
3	where there's a vacancy you can place
4	them. But what you're saying, you have
5	no obligation to place him unless he
6	requests to be considered for those
7	positions. Am I correct?
8	MR. WHITNEY: Yes. According
9	to the contract.
10	MS. FLOWERS: According to
11	y'all's contract. Okay. I'm following
12	you.
13	MR. THARPE: Mr. Houston could
14	be accommodated as an aircraft mechanic
15	because on aircraft daily crews on the
16	TH67, OH58-Ds, and OH58-Cs, there's a
17	guy doing the daily inspection on the
18	tail boom, the engine, and the cockpit
19	that never has to climb and the
20	heaviest thing he picks up is a
21	screwdriver. Now, they usually have
22	two people on the daily crew and one
23	guy gets the high and the other guy

ļ.	Page 32
1	stays on the ground. And Mr. Whitney
2	knows that.
3	MS. FLOWERS: Are you you're
4	an attorney?
. 5	MR. THARPE: Yes, ma'am.
6	MS. FLOWERS: Do you work
7	for the local or do you
8	MR. THARPE: I work I worked
9	on these contracts thirty-six years
10	and
11	MS. FLOWERS: Yeah. But do you
12	work for the local? Are you here
13	representing the local or just here
14	MR. THARPE: No. I represent
15	Mr. Houston.
16	MS. FLOWERS: as an attorney
17	representing him?
18	MR. THARPE: Yes.
19	MR. JONES: Mr. Whitney?
20	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
21	MR. JONES: Is there a form, a
22	specific form, that the claimant would
23	fill out?

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1	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir, 226.
2	MR. JONES: You didn't have
3	a you don't have a copy of that?
4 .	You didn't bring a copy?
5	MR. WHITNEY: I didn't.
6	MR. JONES: But there is a
7	specific form?
8	MR. WHITNEY: We have them
9	in bulk in our office.
10	MR. JONES: And under the labor
11	agreement, he would have to ask for one
12	of those forms?
13	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
14	MR. JONES: And he would fill
15	it out?
16	MR. WHITNEY: Yes, sir.
17	MR. JONES: Now, Mr. Tharpe,
18	did I hear you say that there were no
19	restrictions on the claimant?
20	MR. THARPE: There are no
21	restrictions
22	MR. JONES: Did I hear you
23	say

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1	MR. THARPE: under the
2	MR. JONES: Did I hear you
3	say
4	MR. THARPE: collective
5	bargaining agreement.
6	MR. JONES: Did I hear you say
7	that there were no restrictions on the
8	claimant?
9	MR. THARPE: No. No. The
10	doctor
11	MR. JONES: I thought I heard
12	you say that he could be an aircraft
13	mechanic, could work as an aircraft
14	mechanic?
1 5	MR. THARPE: Under the
16	Americans with Disabilities Act, which
17	is in the collective bargaining
18	agreement, he could be accommodated and
19	he could do those aircraft mechanic
20	jobs where he doesn't have to climb.
21	There's they have I don't know how
22	many
23	MR. JONES: I worked for a

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1	company that did I ran for a long
2	time, so I'm familiar with what an
3	aircraft mechanic does. I know what he
4	or she is supposed to do.
5	MR. THARPE: This contract is a
6	little different.
7	MR. JONES: Well, I used to
8	MS. FLOWERS: Under ADHR
9	MR. JONES: work excuse
10	me.
11	MS. FLOWERS: accommodating
12	to meet the job it meets?
13	MR. THARPE: I'm sorry?
14	MS. FLOWERS: To come back
15	you're saying that the ADR says
16	MR. THARPE: ADA.
17	MS. FLOWERS: Yeah. Your
18	argument is they ought to take his
19	current job and restructure it
20	MR. THARPE: No, ma'am.
21	MS. FLOWERS: to accommodate
22	his disability rather than him doing
23	this?

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1	MR. THARPE: Give him
2	reasonable accommodations.
3	MS. FLOWERS: Okay.
4	MR. THARPE: As required under
5.	the ADA. Mr. Houston wants to work.
6 .	He doesn't want to be drawing
.7	unemployment or be unemployed.
8 .	MR. JONES: That's all I have,
9	Mr. Chairman.
10	MS. FLOWERS: I'm through.
11	MR. BLEVINS: Hearing is
12	concluded. Thank you very much.
13	
14	
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21	
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1	* * * * * * * * * * *
2	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
3	* * * * * * * * * * *
4	STATE OF ALABAMA
5 .	COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY
6	I hereby certify that the above and
7	foregoing proceeding was taken down by me by
8	stenographic means, and that the content
9	herein was produced in transcript form by
10	computer aid under my supervision, and that
11	the foregoing represents, to the best of my
12	ability, a true and correct transcript of
13	the proceedings occurring on said date at
14.	said time.
15	I further certify that I am neither
16	of counsel nor of kin to the parties to the
17	action; nor am I in anywise interested in
18	the result of said case.
19	
20	
21	
22	Bridgette Whitehell
23	Bridgette Mitchell Reporter and Notary Public State of Alabama at Large

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